

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-36 are pending in this application and have been rejected. By this amendment, claims 1-13 and 29-36 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; claims 14, 16-18, 20, 21, 23, 27 and 28 are amended; and new claims 37-42 are added. No new matter has been added. Claims 14, 21, 28 and 40-42 are independent in form.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) and 103

Claims 1-18, 21-25 and 28-36 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by AutoCAD 2000- 3D Modeling, a Visual Approach” by John Wilson. (“Wilson”) and claims 19, 20, 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Wilson in view of “AutoCad 2000: The Complete Reference” by David Cohn. (“Cohn”) Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections as follows.

Applicant has herein canceled claims 1-13 and 29-36, rendering the rejections as to these claims moot. Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Applicants have herein amended pending independent claims 14, 21 and 28 to further clarify the claimed invention. Specifically, the feature of controlling a display of the 3D model and the virtual plane in the same virtual 3D space from a view point on a visual line which is different from a normal line of the virtual plane, has been expressly added to these independent claims.

The present invention as recited in claims 14, 21 and 28 is characterized by, inter alia, setting a virtual plane with which attribution information on a 3D model is correlated and controlling a display of the 3D model and the virtual plane in the same virtual 3D space from a viewpoint on a visual line which is different from a normal line of the virtual plane (see e.g., Fig. 10A, 11A or 51A to E).

In contrast, Wilson discloses an apparatus to display an object in the condition from an anterior view (Figs. 6-17 and 6-18). Wilson fails, however, to disclose controlling a display of the 3D model and the virtual plane in the same virtual 3D space from a view point on a visual line which is different from a normal line of the virtual plane as claimed. In addition, while Wilson discloses the feature to set a view direction, Wilson fails to disclose setting a virtual plane with which said attribution information on a 3D model is correlated. Thus, Wilson does not disclose or suggest at least the foregoing feature of the present invention as recited in claims 14, 21 and 28.

Accordingly the present invention as recited in independent claims 14, 21 and 28 and the claims depending therefrom is believed neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in

view of, and thus patentably distinct over, Wilson taken individually or in combination with the other references of record.

Dependent Claims:

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that, as the independent claims 14, 21 and 28 from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable for at least the reasons discussed *supra*, the dependent claims are believed allowable for at least similar reasons. Applicants, however, reserve the right to address such rejections should such response be necessary and appropriate.

New claims 37-42

Applicants submit that new claims 37-39, which share similar distinguishing features as claims 14, 21 and 28, are believed allowable for at least similar reasons as claims 14, 21 and 28 respectively as discussed above.

The present invention as recited in new claims 40-42 is characterized by, inter alia, the feature of setting a direction to determine a display condition of characters of attribution information on the 3D model to be inputted by input means, in a virtual 3D space where a 3D model is displayed. The art of record, taken individually or in combination, fails to disclose or suggest this feature. Accordingly, the present invention in claims 40-42 is not anticipated by nor obvious in view of, and therefore believed allowable over, the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the present invention as recited in the claims presented herein is believed patentably distinct over the art of record and Applicants respectfully request that the respective rejections be withdrawn and the application be allowed as the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance.

If any outstanding issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.



AUTHORIZATION

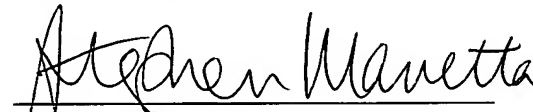
While no fees or extension of time are believed necessary for this Amendment, should an extension of time be required for the timely submission of this paper, such extension is hereby petitioned, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4823.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: July 26, 2004

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